

BikeBrampton minutes

November 25, 2020 – 6:30pm – 7:30pm

ZOOM Video Conference call

Attendees: Barry Lavallee, Polly Thornham, Lisa Stokes, Yvon Rochefort, Dayle Laing, David Laing, Steve Laidlaw, Cindy Evans, Bruce Marshall, George Sheppardley, Newman Seto, Alex Srdoc, Alina Grzejszczak, David Cooper, Andrew Ellis, Leo O'Brien, Ross Redford, Tracy Zason, Steve Maxwell, Rani Gill
cc: Nelson Cadete

Meeting Started: 6:37pm

Review & approve minutes [October minutes](#) -Steve, Bruce moved, approved

Brampton City Update:

1. **Williams Parkway Pause - proposed widening from 4 to 6 lanes.** Committee of Council Nov 18th update: [Delegation by BikeBrampton](#), [Delegation by BCAC](#), [Correspondence from Steve](#), [Correspondence from Lisa](#), [Correspondence from Ewa](#),
 - a. [Committee of Council Meeting Video link](#) starts 2:19:07
 - i. Dayle for BikeBrampton starts 2:34:50
 - ii. Polly for BCAC starts 2:39:05
 - iii. Councillor Santos starts 2:44:20 – put forward motion for Opt. 4 with extras
 - iv. Mayor Brown starts 3:22:13 and again 3:41:40 – excellent endorsement of AT
 - b. Discussion about David Suzuki Foundation contribution with email campaign and delegation, compromise will result in best outcome for local residents, traffic congestion, AT, trees & landscaping – better aligns with 2040 Vision & ATMP
 - c. Discussion about 15-Minute Cities featured series of articles in Globe and Mail: [Marcus Gee, July 25](#); [Eric Reguly, Nov 14](#) ; [Editorial Board, Aug 2](#); [Alex Bozikovic, Nov 23](#).
2. **New bike lanes:** Main Street (Wellington s to Nanwood), Central Park (Queen s to Clark), Guru Nanak (Dixie to Great Lakes), and North Park (Williams Parkway to Bramalea) – members pleased to see new infrastructure.
 - a. Discussion re: advocate for Main Street south to Steeles, and north to Nelson.
 - b. Discussion re: bike facilities as part of Riverwalk and issue with tunnel under railway.

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Question whether AT can be included in CN building of 3rd track for 2-way all day GO train for 2024. **Action:** Dayle to research current AT status of Riverwalk.

- c. Discussion re: need to dismount at some intersections. Eg. Central Park & Clark. Some bike lane sensors already installed. Comment that busses will continue to take preference. **Action:** members to report to 311 when they find one needing attention. (Lisa has had success reporting 7-8 locations.)

Regional Update:

1. **PSARTS (Peel Safe and Active Routes to School) – Active Transportation Wayfinding Program pilot** - David reported that he has been making virtual Peel classroom presentations on cycling safety & wayfinding routes to school along with TRCA educational team – 4 last week and one tomorrow. Kids from Kindergarten to grade 6, both in-class and online. TRCA produced stencils (frog, butterfly, squirrel, acorn) for schools to use chalk on pavement (sidewalks) with arrows to directing students to actively reach their schools. More presentations planned for 2021.

BikeBrampton Projects:

1. **(CCP) Community Cycling Program – [smART Ride Contest](#)** – “In partnership with BikeBrampton, The Rose is celebrating the beauty of the bicycle through ART. Through dance, poetry, visual art, monologue, music, comedy or the artistic medium of your choice, submit an artistic piece that celebrates cycling for your chance to WIN! Whether you are moved by the thrill of racing the wind; taking control of your commute to work; the joy of exploring nooks and crannies of Brampton’s valley trails; or simply the satisfaction of a carbon fibre frame over a carbon footprint, we want to know what it is about cycling that INSPIRES you! So, put on your thinking cap along with your helmet, and show the world how spokes and wheels speak to you! *Contest closes November 30, 2020.*” The panelists will provide a group mentoring session with the top 3 artists and a \$200 honorarium for a virtual showcase performance. Panels include: Steven Schipper, Executive Artistic Director, Performing Arts, City of Brampton; Norbert Augustine, artist (5 Vivian Lane cycling murals); Kez Vicario-Robinson, Stand-up comedy non-binary artist; and Angela Boyer (Mshimkehrn Ense Kwe), Indigenous advocate for arts and culture.
2. Toby – update about Kevin’s son. David organized a [Go Fund Me](#) campaign, which currently has reached \$27,000. All members thinking about Kevin and his family.
3. **Brampton Bike Hub** – CCP contract runs until end of April. We have to see what happens with COVID-19 red zone, before specific events may occur. Gerald and Peter continue to repair bikes.

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4. **Etobicoke Creek under #401** – Steve reported that trail is now open.
5. **Smelling Pink Festival** – David reported he has been participating on organizing committee for a spring nature / environmental / cultural / health event to celebrate cherry blossoms in Joyce Archdekin Park (Etobicoke Creek Trail, Main & Nanwood). Scheduled date: Apr 30-May 2. Opportunity for BikeBrampton to have a cycling component and a tent display.
6. **Highway #413** – discussion about boulevard option through Heritage Heights. – COB Staff recommended, and Council endorsed boulevard option instead of limited access highway at Planning and Development meeting on Jul 27th. ([Agenda link to complete report and delegation](#) by staff and consultants). David delegated in favour of staff report. Several BikeBrampton members participated in workshops in 2019. Ontario Task Force Report on #413 was contracted by previous provincial government to examine need for #413. Report stated that the #413 would save 30 to 60 seconds per trip. Further, #407 is under capacity and dedicated truck lanes could be implemented there instead. Canada Pension Fund recently became majority shareholder in 407, so effectively owns the highway. Induced demand is not being considered at provincial level, according to Minister of Transportation. Issue is that province is streamlining approval process for #413, by removing Environmental Assessments (EA) requirements if under 75 km. Cost is ~\$10 billion to build 55 km. 413 is also scheduled to cross ~100 waterways and the Greenbelt. Issue with Ontario Bill 229 schedule 6 that eviscerates the power of the Conservation Authorities. Municipal Zoning Orders (MZO) hands power directly to the Minister of Natural Resources to make decisions on development that were previously made by Conservation Authorities. No option to be a party at Ontario Municipal Board hearings. No consideration for AT in configuration due to not being current policy of MTO. Rather than the standard multi-lane high speed limited access 400 series highway format that would bisect Heritage Heights community, the boulevard option presents a well-treed, landscaped, lower speed road that engages both pedestrians and cyclists on a human scale. This discourages sprawl and congestion and makes the community welcoming and the land more valuable. This is the direction of progressive countries around the world, as we saw at our Feb 12th Rose Theatre field trip to see the Urban Land Institute presentations. [Transportation Action Aug 20, 2020](#). [Environmental Defence's 6 Reasons not to fast-track construction, Aug 11, 2020](#), (*includes proposed GTA West Highway Map*).
7. **Orangeville-Brampton Rail Trail** – discussion about rail line losing money. This has long been on George's wish list for Brampton infrastructure! Orangeville Mayor has asked staff to investigate rail

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trail. Mayor Brown is supportive of the rail trail, according to this article: [Council to look at repurposing rail line after it ceases operations in Dec 2021. Orangeville Citizen, Dec 23, 2020](#)

8. **Holiday Party** – Dec 16th. Members voted to hold virtual party. David to send out ZOOM invite!
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Referred Matters List

1. **Mentor training – Action:** Lisa and Steve to finalize re-certification training for existing and new mentors. This will include advanced skills for the practicalities of cycling – on-going
 2. **Protégé training – Action:** Lisa with assistance from Steve and Kevin conducted two series of 4 ZOOM calls to educate protégés. Response was excellent. This series will be scheduled for 2021.
 3. **Bike-a-thon** – Anu Sharma, PCHS Chair and President approached us re PCHS bike-a-thon activity for next year – **Action:** discuss possible date and time in May. David to contact Ms. Sharma to start the organization of the event. – carry forward to 2021.
 4. **BikeBrampton Introduction Video** – it was suggested at the January meeting, that David’s introduction to the BikeBrampton background be captured on a short video clip that can be posted on our website.
 5. **Trail signage** – trails have been audited for signage. – Esker, Chinguacousy, Don Doan – some sign installation along Esker Lake Trail – incomplete
 6. **National Urban Cycling Strategy Motion** – [motion by Councillor Santos](#) at Council meeting May 13th, requesting Mayor Brown write a letter of support requesting national cycling infrastructure funding of at least \$265 million as part of COVID-19 economic stimulus package. [Supporting letter](#) by Jeff Binks, Red Mile Complete Street Advocacy Group, Calgary. Dayle sent this [BikeBrampton supporting letter](#) . Councillor Santos reported that the motion passed unanimously by Council. Staff charged with working on Brampton’s official letter, which will be shared with BCAC and Region of Peel first. City will reach out to TRCA and CVC (Toronto Region Conservation Authority and Credit Valley Conservation Authority) for their support. Then the letter will go to Federation of Canadian Municipalities conference.
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Events

1. [Critical Mass Rides](#), last Fri of every month Check [BikeBrampton webpage](#) for information to this casual ride. Group rides limited to current COVID-19 standards. Cyclists who wish to ride solo may do so.
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2. **Ontario Bike Summit** Postponed to Dec 1-3, 2020 - Those already registered will continue to be registered, from cancelled Apr 6, 7th time. [Draft agenda from April](#) [Summary](#)

3. **Smelling Pink Festival** Apr 30 – May 2, 2021. Cherry blossom walking tour in Joyce Archdekin Park, beside Etobicoke Creek Trail (opposite Brampton Mall, Main Street). BikeBrampton is participating with a booth.

4. [Bike the Creek](#) Jun 12, 2021 SAVE the DATE. Check the [website](#).

Next meeting Jan 20th, 6:30-7:30 pm Meeting adjourned 7:30 p.m.